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American Spaces

BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

July 2023

With 600 locations, ECA's Office of American Spaces engages people worldwide through programming and resources. American Spaces support U.S. foreign policy goals and strategically promote public diplomacy.

As always, thank you for sending in your comments and suggestions to americanspaces@state.gov. We hope you enjoy this issue!

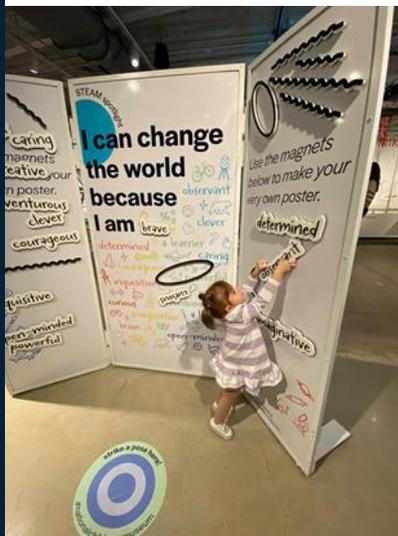
American Spaces Conference 2023



The [Office of American Spaces](#) hosted its annual conference for REPS (Regional Public Engagement Specialists) and DC/Doha/Vienna based staff in Washington, D.C., during the last week of June. Programming focused on sharing best practices and training opportunities that will benefit American Spaces for years to come. Nearly 40 participants joined the conference and discussed topics such as misinformation and disinformation, team collaboration, grants management and Diversity Equity Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA). Conference participants also heard from key Department of State leaders including newly confirmed **Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Liz Allen**, **Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Scott Weinhold**, **Bureau of Global Public Affairs Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Kristin Kane**, and **Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Deputy Assistant Secretary Ethan Rosenzweig**.

US Culture Spotlight:

An American Summer Through a Child's Eyes



Have you ever wondered what children in the U.S. are up to during the summer months? Read about one of the newest –

Faces of American Spaces:

Alfredo Giraldo, American Spaces Peru



We sat down with **Alfredo Giraldo**, **American Spaces Program Specialist in Peru**, during a recent training visit

and littlest – young diplomats in the Office of American Spaces’ summer adventures spanning various locations across the United States.

Camilla Steger is the daughter of new REPS **Liza Steger**, who joined the corps earlier this year. Camilla is almost two-and-a-half years old but has done some serious exploring over the last two summers. She would love to share her recommendations for fun activities to engage your whole family – and resources that can be accessed from all over the world (and at your American Spaces)!

A little background: in early 2023, Camilla and her family moved to the Washington, D.C. area from her hometown of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Last summer, Camilla traveled to Miami Beach (Florida) and this summer she has spent a lot of time exploring D.C. and showing her Abuelos (grandparents), who visited over the Fourth of July weekend, her favorite spots here.

Camilla’s top recommendations for a fun-filled American summer:

to Vienna. We are excited to share what Alfredo had to say during our Q&A (questions and answers) session with him. [\[Read more here!\]](#)

From the Field:

Empowering Equality and Human Rights by Serving as a Secured Platform for Minorities in Indonesia

As part of June celebrations of Pride Month, **@america** hosted impactful events to advance equality and human rights in Indonesia. The first program, held on May 31, was a podcast-style discussion on healthcare equality tuned into by over 600 participants on **@america** social media. **Alegra Wolter**, an IVLP alumna and the first openly transgender medical doctor in Indonesia, highlighted the challenges faced by individuals from diverse backgrounds in accessing healthcare facilities. The event featured a video presentation of USAID MAJu’s project - eMpowering Access to Justice (MAJu), emphasizing the importance of equal access to high-quality

- Visits to amazing art exhibits and events at the [Philbrook Museum in Tulsa](#). Last summer, Camilla visited the museum to view the Frida Kahlo exhibit at Philbrook. Also, she enjoyed some sprinkler fun and outdoor concerts and movies at the [museum's gardens](#), which are some of the most iconic places to visit in Oklahoma.

- [Gathering Place](#) in Tulsa. Camilla loved visiting this [award-winning park](#) and taking advantage of wonderful programming and playground.
- [Calle Ocho \(8th Street\), Little Havana in Miami, Florida](#). Camilla and her family got to walk around Little Havana, listen to live music, and tried Cuban food during their visit to Miami last summer.

- A membership to the [National Children's Museum in Washington, D.C.](#) for repeated visits that go beyond the summertime.

- A boat ride on the [Potomac River](#)

healthcare for all individuals. The second event, on June 2, focused on empowering the LGBTQIA+ community in the greater Jakarta area.

Read the [full story](#) on the [American Spaces](#) website.

U.S. Speaker Spot

As a partnership with the [Office of the U.S. Speaker Program](#), the American Spaces Newsletter is featuring selected speakers available for virtual programs with professional audiences on priority themes. For more information about the U.S. Speaker Program, and to submit a program request, please reach out to your local Public Diplomacy Section.



Anila Ali is a Pakistani American philanthropist, author, and politician. As a leading figure in the Pakistani American community, she founded an NGO to help build peace and interfaith relations in the United States and has

departing from the Washington Harbor in Washington, D.C.

Camilla is looking forward to exploring more new places and going on fun summer adventures with her family. At the end of the day, her family ends up having as much fun – or even more fun – than she does!

Featured Resources:

We would like to highlight a few key resources that may be of interest:

Artificial Intelligence Webinar on July 26

The **U.S. Copyright Office** recently announced a public webinar to take place on July 26, 2023, on international copyright issues arising from artificial intelligence (AI) technology.

On July 26, 2023, join the Copyright Office for a discussion on global perspectives on copyright and AI. Leading international experts will discuss how other countries are approaching copyright questions such as authorship, training, exceptions and limitations, and infringement. They will provide an overview of

been regularly featured in the media. Ali is known for her advocacy for human rights and gender equality and opposing radicalization of Muslim youth.



Tenzin Dorjee is an associate professor at the Department of Human Communication Studies at California State University, and the former chair of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom. Dorjee is an expert on Tibetan culture, identity, nonviolence and conflict resolution; Sino-Tibetan conflict; and the PRC's influence and religious freedom issues. He has testified before the U.S. Congress about the religious freedom conditions in China, including Tibet, and the long arm of China in U.S. academic institutions. He is fluent in Tibetan.

Please check out additional speakers for July on the American Spaces [website](#).

legislative developments in other regions and highlight possible areas of convergence and divergence involving generative AI. This webinar is a part of the Copyright Office’s initiative to examine copyright law and policy issues raised by AI technology, including the scope of copyright in works generated using AI tools and the use of copyrighted materials in AI training. **For more on copyright and AI, visit copyright.gov/ai.**

Time: July 26, 2023, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. EDT [More information and registration available here.](#)

The **NASA Psyche Innovation Courses** for building innovative and cohesive teams! [Innovation Toolkit - Free Psyche Courses | Psyche Mission \(asu.edu\)](#)

And... the new searchablemuseum.com of the [National Museum of African American History & Culture!](#)

Enjoy exploring this summer!

Have you introduced yourself in the Facebook group yet?



Click on the image above to introduce yourself in the American Spaces Facebook group.

Calendar of Events

For potential programming purposes, we are featuring the Office of American Spaces Calendar through October. As always, the full calendar is available on the American Spaces [website](#).

July 1: International Joke Day - see official [site](#)

July 4: US Independence Day - see official [site](#)

July 8: Video Games Day - see official [site](#)

July 11: World Population Day - see [Health and Environment Resources](#)

July 15: World Youth Skills Day - Here are STEAM resources and resources for [entrepreneurship](#)

July 17: World Emoji Day - see official [site](#)

July 18: Nelson Mandela International Day - see official [site](#)

July 20: Space Exploration Day

- [NASA Kids' Club](#)
- [NASA for Educators](#)
- [NASA American English language resources](#)

July 26: Americans with Disabilities Act - see official [site](#)

July 28: Milk Chocolate Day (official [site](#)) and World Hepatitis Day (official [site](#))

July 30: World Day against Trafficking in Persons - see [toolkit](#)

August is International Peace Month

August 6: Sisters' Day - see official [site](#)

August 9: International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples (official [site](#) and [toolkit](#))

August 12: International Youth Day - see official [site](#) and [Teacher's Guide on Volunteerism](#)

August 19: World Humanitarian Day - see official [site](#)

August 21: International Day of Victims of Terrorism - see official [site](#)

August 22: International Day Commemorating Victims of Violence based on Religion or Belief (official [site](#) and [toolkit](#))

August 23: International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and Its Abolition (official [site](#) and [toolkit](#))

August 26: Women's Equality Day - see [Photos](#)

August 29: International Day against Nuclear Tests - see official [site](#)

September: [National Wilderness Month](#)

September 2: End of WWII - [History Channel](#)

September 4: Labor Day - see official [site](#)

September 6: Read a Book Day

September 8: International Literacy Day - see official [site](#)

September 11: Patriots Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance (9/11 Anniversary) - see official [site](#)

September 15 - October 15: Hispanic Heritage Month - see [toolkit](#) and official [site](#))

September 15: International Day of Democracy - see official [site](#)

September 17: Constitution Day - see [toolkit](#) and [English language resources](#)

September 21: International Day of Peace - see official [site](#)

September 22: World Rhino Day - see official [site](#)

September 25: Comic Book Day - see official [site](#)

September 27: World Tourism Day - see official [site](#)

September 29: World Heart Day - see official [site](#)

October: Cybersecurity Month ([toolkit](#)) and National Disability Employment Awareness Month ([toolkit](#))

October 1: International Day of Older Persons - see official [site](#)

October 2: Child Health Day - see official [site](#)

October 4 - 10: World Space Week - see official [site](#)

October 5: World Teacher Day - see official [site](#)

October 9: Columbus Day (United States Holiday also known as Indigenous Peoples' Day)

October 11: International Day of the Girl Child - see official [site](#)

October 16: World Food Day - see official [site](#)

October 17: International Day for the Eradication of Poverty - see official [site](#)

October 24: United Nations Day - see official [site](#)

October 25: National Art Day

October 27: International Religious Freedom Day - see [toolkit](#)

October 29: International Internet Day - see official [site](#)

Thanks to all of you who have shared your programming ideas and highlights with your colleagues through our American Spaces FB page. You can continue to share your news and information by emailing us at AmericanSpaces@state.gov. If you have any questions or content to add, email Karlene Noel Jennings at JenningsKN@state.gov.

To add someone to this newsletter, email us at AmericanSpaces@state.gov.



American Spaces

Want to learn about more events in your area or causes you care about? Tell us about yourself and your interests here:

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